

Remarks

Claims 1-34 are pending in the application. The specification has been amended. Claims 1 and 18 have been amended. Reconsideration and re-examination of the application is respectfully requested for the reasons set forth herein.

1. The specification has been amended to correct typographical errors. Claims 1 and 18 have been amended to correct antecedent basis. Approval of these amendments by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

2. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-7, 10-11, 14-16, 18-21, 25-26, and 28-30 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,074,798 (sic) issued to Carter. Applicant would respectfully like to point out that the Examiner has incorrectly identified the Patent Number of Carter in the Detailed Action.

a. Claim 1 generally recites that the land grid array socket comprises a cover member pivotally mounted on a first end of an insulative housing. A lever is pivotally mounted on a second end of the insulative housing, and a metallic reinforcing plate is positioned on a bottom surface of the insulative housing and extends between the first end and the second end.

Carter does not teach a cover member mounted on a first end of the insulative housing and a lever mounted on a second end of the insulative housing, as taught by the claimed invention. As shown in Figure 1 of Carter, Carter teaches a base 12 including four sides 13. A lid 14 is pivotally connected to the base 12. A pivotal latch 18 is attached to the lid 14 at a side opposite from the base 12. The pivotal latch 18 is therefore mounted on the lid 14 and not the base 12, as required by the claimed invention. Further, unlike the claimed invention that requires

the cover member and the lever to be mounted on first and second ends of the housing, respectively, the pivotal latch 18 is mounted on the same side of the base 12 as the lid 14 is mounted. Additionally, the Examiner has identified the four sides 13 of the base 12 as the insulative housing of the claimed invention and the base 12 as the metallic reinforcing plate of the claimed invention. As shown in Figure 1 and discussed in column 2, lines 30-38 of Carter, the four sides 12 do not form an insulative housing but are integrally molded with the base 12 to form the sides of the base 12. Further, the base 12 is not a reinforcing plate, but a frame for carrying contact modules 40, as described in column 1, lines 32-36 of Carter. Because the Examiner has failed to show that Carter teaches all of the claim limitations of claim 1, the Examiner has failed to set forth a prima facie case of obviousness. Removal of the rejection of claim 1 is therefore respectfully requested.

b. Claim 18 generally recites that the land grid array socket comprises a metallic reinforcing plate positioned on a bottom surface of an insulative housing. A lever is pivotally mounted on the metallic reinforcing plate and has a locking portion for locking a cover member against the insulative housing. The cover member is pivotally mounted on a top surface of the insulative housing.

Carter does not teach a lever pivotally mounted on a metallic reinforcing plate and a cover member pivotally mounted on an insulative housing, as required by the claimed invention. As shown in Figure 1 and discussed in column 2, lines 51-65 of Carter, Carter teaches a pivotal latch 18 pivotally connected to a lid 14. The lid 14 is pivotally connected to a base 12. The pivotal latch 18 is therefore pivotally mounted on the lid 14 and not a metallic reinforcing plate, as required by the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner has identified the four sides 13 of the base 12 as the insulative housing of the claimed invention and the base 12 as the metallic

reinforcing plate of the claimed invention. As shown in Figure 1 and discussed in column 2, lines 30-38 of Carter, the four sides 12 do not form an insulative housing but are integrally molded with the base 12 to form the sides of the base 12. Further, the base 12 is not a reinforcing plate, but a frame for carrying contact modules 40, as described in column 1, lines 32-36 of Carter. Because the Examiner has failed to show that Carter teaches all of the claim limitations of claim 18, the Examiner has failed to set forth a prima facie case of obviousness. Removal of the rejection of claim 18 is therefore respectfully requested.

c. Claims 2-7, 10-11, and 14-16 depend from independent claim 1. Claims 19-21, 25-26, and 28-30 depend from independent claim 18. Because Carter fails to teach or suggest all of the claim limitations of claims 1 and 18, as previously discussed, Carter also fails to teach or suggest all of the claim limitations of the dependant claims. Because the Examiner has therefore failed to set forth a prima facie case of obviousness, removal of the rejection of claims 2-7, 10-11, 14-16, 19-21, 25-26, and 28-30 is respectfully requested.

3. The Examiner has rejected claims 8-9 and 22-23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,074,798 (sic) issued to Carter in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0032720 A1 issued to McHugh et al. Applicant would respectfully like to point out that the Examiner has incorrectly identified the Patent Number of Carter in the Detailed Action.

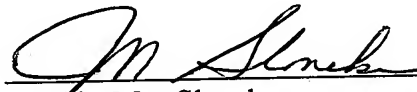
Claims 8-9 depend from independent claim 1. Claims 22-23 depend from independent claim 18. Because Carter fails to teach or suggest all of the claim limitations of claims 1 and 18, as previously discussed, the combination of Carter in view of McHugh also fails to teach or suggest all of the claim limitations of the dependant claims. The Examiner has therefore failed

to set forth a prima facie case of obviousness and removal of the rejection of claims 8-9 and 22-23 is respectfully requested.

In view of the amendments and arguments presented herein, the application is considered to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and passage to issue is respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional fees and/or credit any overpayments associated with this application to Deposit Order Account No. 501581.

Respectfully submitted,
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